

MODERNIAN SWIMMING CLUB



The Rotary Club of Kempston had their annual birthday meal in the Addison Centre at the end of January and the Modernians were very lucky to be presented with some portable Starting Equipment paid for by the Rotary Club. Brian, and his wife Jan, went along as guests of the Rotary Club for the meal at the end of which Brian regaled the audience with stories of his own swimming career and he was then presented with the equipment. The photo shows Brian in full flow!!



THANK YOU BRIAN !



Brian's Leaving Gifts

Parents and swimmers recently made a collection for Brian Brinkley in recognition of all his hard work at Modernian Swimming Club from 2004 to 2009. Brian stepped down from his roll as head coach on 31st December 2009 and has been invited back by the club, with his wife Jan, to a social evening on 31st March at the Bedford Modern Pool, when he will be presented with a few gifts purchased with the money raised. The first is an album of photographs of both Senior and Junior squad swimmers in action during training in February, taken by Chris Felce and Chris Briggs. The second is a pair of crystal brandy glasses engraved with the Modernian Swimming club logo and the words 'Head Coach 2004 to 2009' in a presentation box. To go with this is the third gift; a bottle of Hennessy 'Very Special' Cognac. The final gifts are some theatre tokens, for a night out to a west end show or local theatre, and for Jan, a bouquet of flowers. We are all very grateful to Brian for the guidance and tuition he has given all of the swimmers he has coached at the club over the past 5 years.

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Bedford Sports Awards

Modernians were out in force at the 14th Annual Bedford Sports Awards ceremony, which took place on Monday 14th December at the Corn Exchange in Bedford.

The ceremony was organised by Bedford Borough Council's Sports Development Unit and Sport Bedford and is aimed at acknowledging the achievements of local sports men and women not just for ability but for being dedicated to making the experience possible and providing opportunity for others.

They were joined by the likes of long jumper Greg Rutherford, Paralympic sprinter Danny Crates and heavyweight boxer Matt Skelton together with the new Bedford mayor Dave Hodgson

Up against some very strong competition, nominations were received for the following Modernians:

Bethany Dolan – Rising Star

Connor Delaney, Jamie Douglas, Tom Langford and Josh Steel – Sports Team of the Year

Charlotte Ovenden and Sam Briggs – Junior Sports Personality of the year

Jo Stalley – Sports Administrator/Club Person of the Year

Marcel Scholten – Adult Sports Personality of the year

Charlie Wilson – Sports Administrator/Club Person of the Year

Even though they didn't win any individual awards, the evening was a wonderful experience, meeting other like minded sports people and listening to the very motivational and inspirational talk by Danny Crates and a chance to get dressed up!

My version by Bethany Dolan

After handing in my coat and taking a glass of orange juice we entered a large hall full of round tables.

We sat down where we wanted. After having a buffet the awards started. There was a break half way through where I took to the last chocolate muffin! Even though I didn't win an award I have a good evening and came home, the owner of a small blue Christmas tree!

Schools Triathlon

Back in September last year, Sharnbrook Upper School organised a schools triathlon between St Gregorys, Lincroft, Beachamp, Harold Primary and Margaret Beaufort Middle schools for years 7 and 8.

There were 56 competitors, 5 of which were Modernians, 3 of whom gained medals!

They each had to swim 200m, Row 500m and then run 1 km. All performed extremely well with Amelia Sonsino finishing 7th in her age group, Hannah Goodway 8th, Theo Dryden 2nd, Ben McMahon 3rd, and Catriona Delaney 1st.

Well done to all who took part!



A proud Under 10's 200m Medley team with their Silver medals – Well done Kerry, Jasmine, Bethany and Kara

Team Managers Wanted

Modernians is looking for willing volunteers to be trained as Team Managers to assist coaches at galas, to help with coordinating the team, ensuring swimmers reach races on time, cheer each other on during races and acting as a central point of contact for swimmers and parents. Best of all, they get a seat, drinks, sometimes food and have the best view of the swimming in the house!!

The club is running an in house Team Manager workshop on Wednesday 7th April at 6.00pm in the King Room at Bedford Modern Pool.

In particular we are seeking Junior Squad parents to volunteer as our current team of Team Managers only have swimmers in the Senior Squad. We are also looking for swimmers (over 14 years of age) to train as Team Managers as well. ***Without parents volunteering and becoming Team Managers, we will be unable to enter swimmers for galas.***

Please let Jo know if you wish to volunteer and you can make it to the workshop on 7th.

Upcoming Gala's

Colwick Park Open Water Meet – deadline 20th April
City of Cambridge Summer Meet – deadline 3rd May

For programmes, entry packs and qualifying times, see the Fixtures page of Modernian's website

TESCO Bag Pack Reminder!!

Where: Riverfield Drive Tesco

When: Saturday 17 April, 10 till 4

Who: All swimmers – everyone is expected to attend for a minimum of 1 hour (or longer!). Under 12s need an adult to stay and help them

Why: Biggest fundraiser of the year – vital to raise funds for lane ropes, weights, mats etc

How: to book your slot, see Judy (Abi's mum), text/call her (07743427735) or e-mail her at muppet@marksummerfield1.wanadoo.co.uk